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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5725
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RUCPDO/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUYNAA/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RHHMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541// PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CC/PA// PRIORITY
RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/USFJ PRIORITY
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 6093
RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA 8425
RUEHNAG/AMCONSUL NAGOYA 3505
RUEHKSO/AMCONSUL SAPPORO 6606
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 9902
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 0633
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 2994
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 7296
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 6922
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SIPDIS

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TREASURY FOR OASIA/IMI;
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA;
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E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - NORTH KOREA

¶1. LEAD STORIES: Top stories on Wednesday morning included an Asahi report on the Japanese government's alleged request to the U.S. in 1999 to classify the declassified government documents concerning a reported U.S.-Japan "secret accord" on the introduction of U.S. nuclear weapons into Japan.

¶2. "Sanctions Should Not Be Relaxed" The moderate Yomiuri editorialized (8/26): "It is too early to conclude that [recent moves by North Korea] will lead to the resumption of talks concerning [Pyongyang's] abolition of its nuclear programs. We need to carefully determine the real motives of North Korea, which is stepping up its 'dialogue offensive.'... The effects of the UN Security Council sanctions have apparently been partially responsible for North Korea's recent humble attitude. There are signs that the DPRK, which is in a difficult situation due to restrictions on money, goods, and personnel that could be linked to missile and nuclear development, is expecting South Korea to provide 'humanitarian assistance.'... The international community should deal with North Korea in a stringent manner so as not to allow the nation to make its possession of nuclear arms a fait accompli. Pressure should not be relaxed until North Korea takes concrete steps to abolish its nuclear programs."

ROOS